



COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL Agenda Highlights for October 6, 2008

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POLICE HELICOPTER FUEL PURCHASE: The Columbus Division of Police's helicopter unit serves a vital crime-fighting role as force multipliers. Flying an average of 500 hours per month, officers in the sky can travel anywhere in the city to help provide crucial, real-time information to officers on the ground. *Ordinance 1439-2008*, sponsored by Safety Committee Chair [Andrew J. Ginther](#), will purchase jet fuel for the helicopters based on the current universal term contract. The ordinance also authorizes an additional appropriation of \$200,000 from the law enforcement contraband seizure fund to procure the jet fuel, which will permit the helicopter unit to maintain full operations through February 2009.

SUPPORTING PEDESTRIAN SAFETY: City Council is scheduled to consider changing the current zoning code to encourage more pedestrian-friendly redevelopment in commercial areas. Development Committee Chair [Maryellen O'Shaughnessy](#) and Councilmember Kevin L. Boyce are bringing forth *ordinance 1014-2008* to revise portions of the code that regulates community scale commercial development. The proposed legislation reinforces the commitment to promote ground floor commercial and retail development.

****Councilmember O'Shaughnessy is also sponsoring *resolution 0189X-2008* to recognize the 29th annual Nationwide Better Health Columbus Marathon on Sunday, October 19, 2008. A record-breaking field of 11,500 runners, walkers and wheelchair participants are expected to participate.****

CRAIG TO RECOGNIZE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION MONTH: The Columbus Division of Police responds to approximately 23,000 domestic violence calls annually and makes nearly 5,000 arrests related to incidences of domestic violence. To highlight the numerous programs that can help victims break the cycle of domestic violence, Judiciary and Court Administration Committee Chair [Hearcel F. Craig](#) is sponsoring *resolution 0186X-2008* to recognize October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Councilmember Craig also will be holding the second in a series of hearings to address the issue of domestic violence on Wednesday, October 22, 2008 at 5:30 PM in Council Chambers.

PROTECTING RESIDENTS FROM LEAD POISONING: The Lead Safe Columbus program works to prevent instances of lead poisoning. If ingested, lead can cause illnesses and slow the cognitive development of children. Health, Housing & Human Services Committee Chair [Charleta B. Tavares](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 1522-2008* to transfer \$112,377 between object levels within the General Government Grant Fund to maintain proper staffing levels within the Lead Safe Columbus program, ensuring that initiatives to prevent lead poisoning can continue.

BOYCE TO HOLD SECOND HEARING ON 2009 GENERAL BUDGET: Finance Committee Chair [Kevin L. Boyce](#) will hold the second in a series of meetings to discuss the 2009 General Fund budget on Thursday, October 9, 2008 at 5:30 PM in City Council Chambers. As part of the hearing, Boyce has invited Dr. Bill LaFayette, vice president of economic analysis for the Columbus Chamber of Commerce, and Bob Howarth, chair of the Columbus Economic Advisory Committee, to provide an overview of Columbus' current economic situation. While the City Charter requires Mayor Coleman's administration to submit the 2009 budget proposal on November 15, President Pro Tem Boyce will continue Council's discussion of controlling costs and prioritizing services to best meet the needs of Columbus.

ENDORISING THE ARTS: A key to expanding Columbus' economy and attracting and retaining young professionals is a thriving arts community. From internationally acclaimed exhibitions at Wexner Museum on the Ohio State University campus, to the numerous galleries in the Short North, to the Columbus College of Art & Design, this segment of our community is a point of pride for all Columbus residents. To celebrate National Arts and Humanities Month, Recreation and Parks Committee Chair [Priscilla R. Tyson](#) is sponsoring *resolution 0179X-2008* to encourage Columbus residents to incorporate the arts into their lives.

MENTEL TO HELP DEDICATE NEW FIRE STATION: City Council President [Michael C. Mentel](#) and his colleagues will participate in a dedication ceremony for the new Fire Station 10, located at 1080 W. Broad St., on Thursday, October 9, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. In April 2007, President Mentel and other City officials broke ground in the historic Franklinton area for this modern replacement of Columbus' oldest operating fire station. While incorporating features of the old building to honor its historic nature, Fire Station 10 also set a new standard in environmental design as the City's first LEED Certified construction project.